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MONTANA OPPORTUNITIES

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Thomas L. Judge
Governor of Montana

Governor Judge Comments

This booklet about Montana is designed to answer some of the many questions we receive daily from businessmen as well as other citizens interested in the Big Sky Country.

I am sure you will enjoy this tour-in-print of Montana — the last of the big time splendors. Within our state borders, we have an enormous wealth of natural resources in a land that boasts of some of the most spectacular mountains, streams, prairies, and wilderness areas on this continent.

We Montanans are proud of our heritage and we cherish what God has given us. And we want to maintain a healthy and vigorous economy to secure a decent standard of living for all our people in this generation and those to come.

If you decide to invest in our state or to visit us, you will, I promise, be welcomed in the great spirit of our nation's Bicentennial celebration.

Montana Opportunities

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Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep follow retreating snows in Montana mountain tops (Montana Travel Promotion photo).

Montana — a multi-faceted jewel of a land with rich valleys and towering mountains (Wayne Arnst photo).

Let us introduce

Montana — a Splendorous Land

The Big Sky Country. The Last of the Big Time Splendors . . . MONTANA.

It **is** hard to describe, to put into words, for Montana is not merely a land, an enormously glamorous land, but a people, a way of life, that frequently needs to be felt rather than just seen or heard.

Many persons have fallen in love with Montana, but not many have written as compellingly of their love affair as John Steinbeck.

> "To me," Steinbeck wrote, "Montana is a great splash of grandeur. The scale is huge but not overpowering. The land is rich with grass and color, and the mountains are the kind I would create if mountains were ever put on my agenda. Montana seems to me to be what a small boy would think Texas is like from hearing the Texans."

Others have tried to put in their own words the effect this magnificent land has on them. "The Big Sky Country," they have called it: "The Land of the Shining Mountains;" "The Treasure State." While some simply say its like living in a country club.

The Great Seal of the state bears witness that it was the treasure of silver and gold that most impressed the early founders . . . and the western mountains still ring with the names of the gold towns — Bannack

Montana Cities and Counties

City	Population (1970)	County	Population (1970)
Billings	61,581	Yellowstone	87,367
Great Falls	60,091	Cascade	81,804
Missoula	29,497	Missoula	58,263
Butte	23,368	Silver Bow	41,981
Helena	22,730	Lewis & Clark	33,281
Bozeman	18,670	Gallatin	32,505
Havre	10,558	Hill	17,358
Kalispell	10,526	Flathead	39,460
Anaconda	9,771	Deer Lodge	15,652
Miles City	9,023	Custer	12,174
Livingston	6,883	Park	11,197
Lewistown	6,437	Fergus	12,611
Glendive	6,305	Dawson	11,269
Glasgow	4,700	Valley	11,471
Dillon	4,548	Beaverhead	8,187
Sidney	4,543	Richland	9,837
Laurel	4,454	Yellowstone	87,367
Deer Lodge	4,306	Powell	6,660
Cut Bank	4,004	Glacier	10,783
Whitefish	3,349	Flathead	39,460
Libby	3,286	Lincoln	18,063
Shelby	3,111	Toole	5,839
Wolf Point	3,095	Roosevelt	10,365

and Virginia City, Helena, Gold Creek, Marysville and Boulder. A hundred ghost towns give silent and picturesque evidence of what happened when the gold treasure waned, and aerial photos show clearly where the gold dredges left serried ridges when they took over from the placer miners.

In more recent years the "treasure" that supports the state's growing economy has proved to be the minerals of copper and lead and zinc; wells of oil and gas; deposits of lignite and bituminous coal whose billions of untouched tons are just beginning to be tapped; and the renewable resources of timber and wheat and cattle, as well as beets and barley, sheep and hogs.

Montana is peerless recreation country, with plenty of action for the hunter and fisherman, the snow-sports enthusiast and the sightseer. Both the Columbia and the Missouri rivers headwater in the highlands of the Treasure State. Its largest body of water is backed-up behind Fort Peck, first of the great dams built to harness the waters of the Missouri, but there are sparkling lakes and reservoirs throughout the state, where the runoff from winter snows is caught for a time to serve as a source of power as well as water recreation and irrigation. There is 126,000-acre Flathead Lake in the west, Hungry Horse and Libby in the north and northwest, Yellowtail in the southeast — to name just the largest of these.

Trout streams, 400 miles worth if you count just the double-distilled, top-rated "blue ribbon" classification, course through the state. A third of the state's 147,000 square miles are publicly owned federal, state and Indian lands, and vast tracts of these are sacrosanct "wilderness areas," untouched by saw blade or bulldozer; preserved in perpetuity for the outdoorsman.

The name, of course, is a giveway as to what kind of scenery awaits the visitor to Montana. The great spine of the Continental Divide, straddled by Glacier National Park and the Bob Marshall Wilderness, enters the state from Canada 90 miles east of the Idaho line, and continues southerly, missing the state capitol at Helena by a scant 15 miles. It loops around the mining capitol of Butte, and 210 miles south of the Canadian border as the jet flies, goes on to intersect the state line to the west at Chief Joseph Pass in the Bitterroots, and from there into Yellowstone Park to the southeast; it forms 275 miles of the Montana-Idaho border.

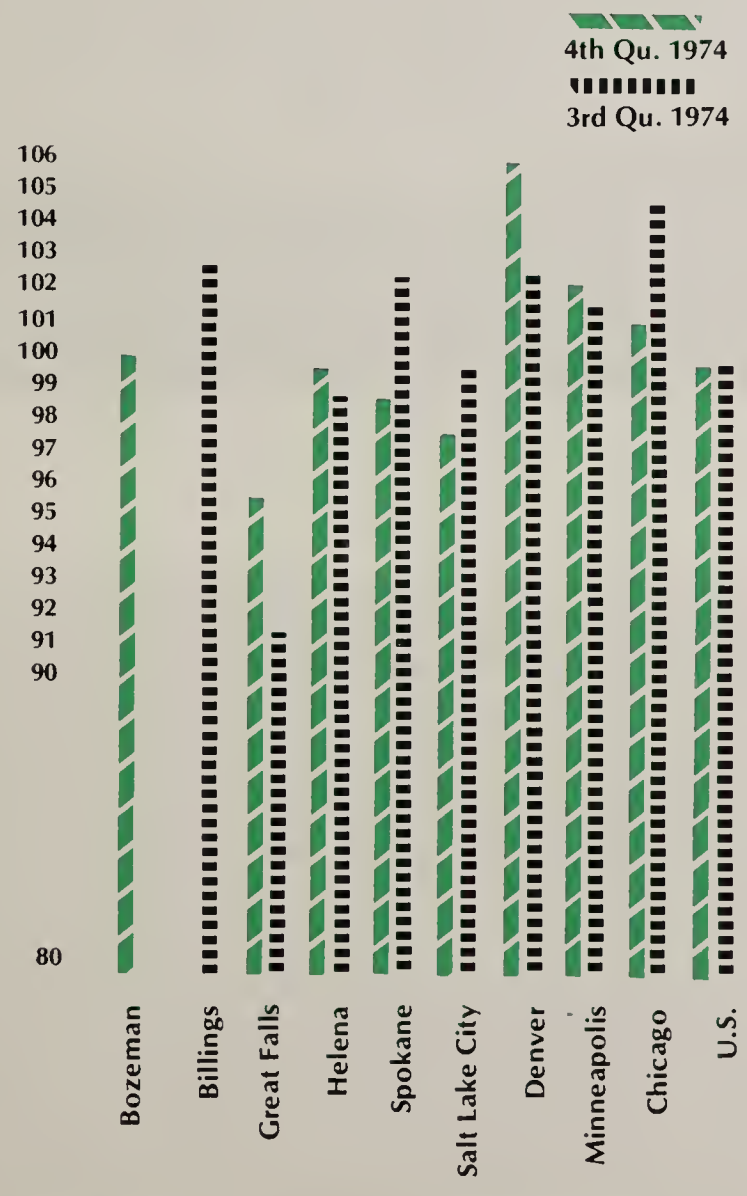
Mountains and intermountain valleys constitute the western third of Montana, but still other ranges shoulder across the southern border into the state from Wyoming.

It is also a land of sweeping plains with the golden triangle in the mid-north forming a basket of wheat land that overflows into Canada. The seemingly flat eastern plains becomes a land of upside-down rimrocks as they cut the plains into ups and downs, ins and outs. It's resource-filled with beef and food to nourish millions.

Cost of Living Comparisons

(U.S.=100)

Source: American Chamber of Commerce Research Association



Rimrock view of Billings, Montana (Garry Wunderwald photo).

AVERAGE EARNINGS PER EMPLOYEE BY MAJOR INDUSTRY

	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968
All Covered Industries	$ 6,862	$ 6,663	$6,320	$5,948	$5,689	$5,428
Mining	10,336	10,495	9,047	8,474	7,930	7,497
Construction	9,878	9,615	9,205	8,491	7,873	7,709
Manufacturing	8,660	8,177	7,626	7,187	6,881	6,508
Utilities	8,984	8,488	7,803	7,358	7,036	6,630
Trade (Wholesale and Retail)	5,698	5,458	5,152	4,882	4,694	4,485
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	7,004	6,783	6,489	6,132	5,924	5,634
Service and Miscellaneous	4,881	4,581	4,220	3,945	3,746	3,523

Source: Montana Department of Labor and Industry

the manpower

People ready and willing

Diversity, as expressed in Montana's landscape is shared by the state's communities and labor force. From wood products orientated towns to large multi-faceted and agriculture communities, the state boasts friendly places with able-bodied workers.

The labor force has become more service oriented and less goods producing in recent years compared with the past.

During 1973, Montana's civilian labor force (16 years old and over), reached a total of 309,900 persons, according to the State Employment Security Division.

The wholesale and retail trade, services, and government industries account for more than 50% of the total employment. Agriculture, a primary industry of Montana, is responsible for employing 36,300 workers, or more than 12% of the total employment. Employment by industry for 1973 is shown in the chart of this page.

Montana's occupational structure, following a service oriented economy, is gaining in the professional and service occupations. The professional, technical and kindred group, Montana's largest occupations group work force, accounts for 15.3% of total employment or 44,200 workers.

Service workers represent 14.9% of total employment or 43,300 workers. Good occupational opportunities also exist in clerical workers, managers, craftsmen and operative occupation groups. There are fair opportunities in the sales workers and laborers occupation groups. Farmers and farm workers represent the middle of Montana's occupational structure.

Production workers in Montana earn substantially more than the national average, however, in comparison to Pacific and Western Mountain States, the production worker's hourly earnings are about average.

The Montana workforce derives from the vast state educational system, plus persons moving to the Big Sky Country.

Post-high school facilities include the state university system composed of two universities and four colleges. In addition there are three regional junior colleges and three private four-year colleges. Almost every type of degree program possible is represented at one or more of these schools.

The state and communities also support five vocational-technical education centers with courses covering a wide range of skills and services.

Currently the high schools and post-secondary schools graduate more persons than can be employed in Montana, forcing many students to leave the state for employment.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY: 1973
(in thousands)

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	290.2
(a) Nonagricultural wage and salary (Residence Data)	224.1
Nonagricultural wage and salary (Establishment Data)	226.2
Manufacturing	24.4
Mining	6.3
Contract Construction	13.4
Transportation and Public Utilities	18.8
Wholesale and Retail Trade	56.4
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	9.4
Services	42.2
Government	55.3
(b) All Other Nonagricultural Employment	29.8
(c) Agriculture	36.3

Estimated Montana Employment By Occupational Groups: 1973
(in thousands)

	Number	Percent
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	290.2	100.0
Professional, Technical, Kindred	44.2	15.3
Managers, Officials, Proprietors	31.7	10.9
Sales Workers	18.8	6.5
Clerical Workers	40.0	13.8
Craftsmen, Foremen, Kindred	35.5	12.2
Operatives	29.7	10.2
Service Workers	43.3	14.9
Laborers	10.7	3.7
Farmers and Farm Workers	36.3	12.5

Montana agriculture lands stretch far as the eye can see (Wayne Arnst photo).

Agriculture

Growing more and better foods

Agriculture stands as a major force in the Montana economy with a continued upward growth curve. Contributing some $1 billion or more in direct cash receipts annually, agri-business ranks as the state's leading basic industry.

Within the framework of total U.S. wheat production, for instance, Montana ranks fifth; in barley, it's second; sugar beets, tenth; alfalfa seed, fourth; crested wheatgrass production, first; cattle numbers, fourteenth (but ninth in cow-calf numbers) and sheep numbers, seventh.

Grain production, Montana's "Golden Bonanza," produced cash receipts of $470 million in 1973. The 100 million bushel wheat crop is unique in that both spring and winter wheat are sent to market. Much of the high quality wheat is in demand on the international market.

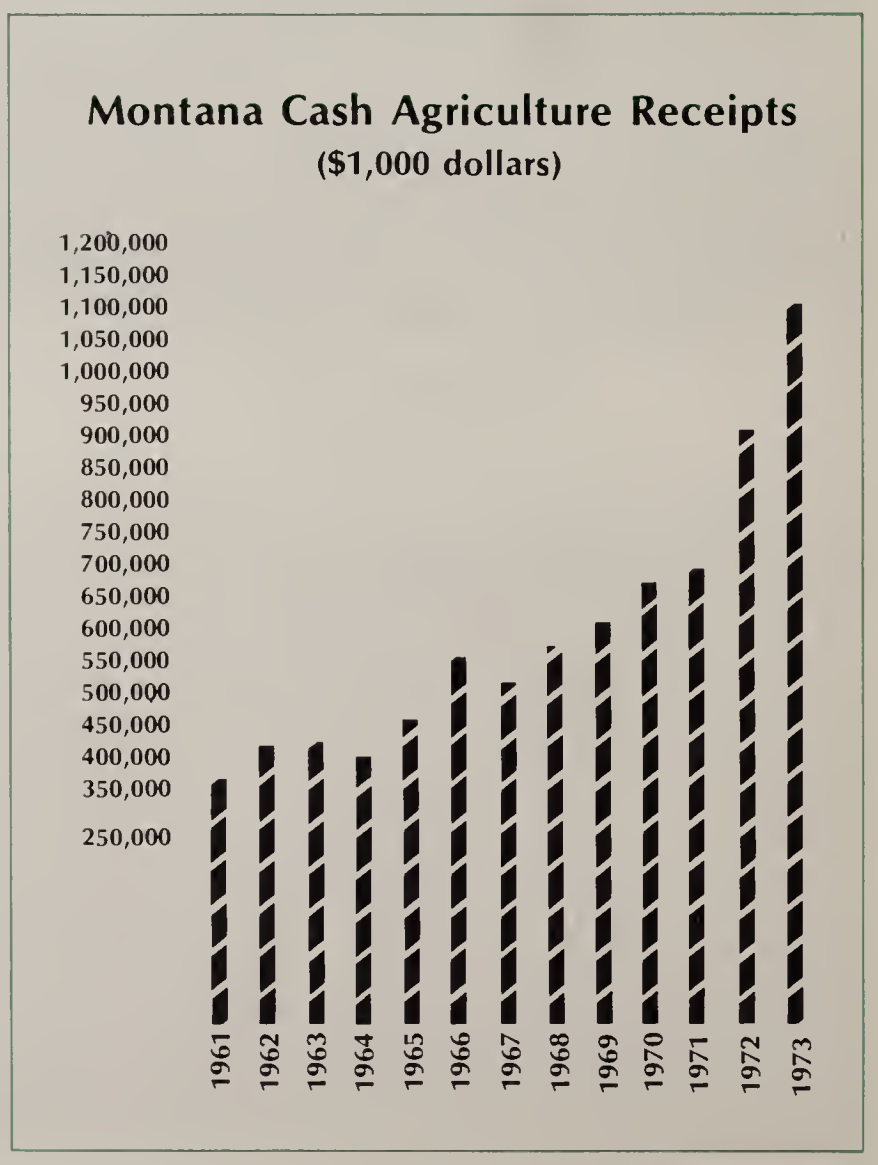
Other Montana crops include dry beans, red clover seed, potatoes, corn, flaxseed, mustard seed, sweet and sour cherries, poultry, hogs, honey and other crops that advertise Montana's reputation as a name-brand state.

Emerging as a growing force in the agricultural picture is the livestock feeding industry. Numbers of cattle placed in feedlots more than doubled over the last ten years to greater than 220,000 head. Similar expansion occurred in the swine industry. However, both potentials have barely been tapped, even in the sometimes uncertain market conditions surrounding feedlots.

THE LAND BASE

This vast state, fourth largest in the U.S., rates second in acres of farmland. Usable range, pasture and cropland account for 62 million acres. Of this domain, 16 million acres produce cash crops, with some 2 million classified as irrigated.

The rangelands principally graze cattle and sheep. These pastures, as well as the dryland wheat and barley farms, are vast but manageable.



The golden Montana harvest includes many grains to feed the nation (Garry Wunderwald photo).

Montana has witnessed adjustments in the numbers and sizes of farms, as have most areas. In 1945 there were 40,800 farms with an average size of 1,550 acres. In 1971 the number stood at 24,953 farms with an average 2,521 acres.

Montana Agri-business Crops—highlights . .

Wheat and barley have long been produced in Montana and have recently been widely exported. Normally, total production comprises 50-55 million bushels of winter varieties, 40-50 million bushels of spring varieties, and approximately 5 million of durum. Barley production averages between 50 and 60 million bushels which includes both quality livestock feed and malting types.

Selected Agriculture Production

	Barley (M/bushels)	Wheat (M/bushels)	Cattle (M/lbs.)
1971	58,800	112,011	1,122,595
1970	65,132	85,167	1,089,141
1969	67,914	96,794	1,066,540
1968	42,735	125,869	1,062,930
1967	37,022	119,136	973,940
1966	63,564	99,694	985,345
1965	50,050	105,350	948,420

Montana farmer-ranchers harvested 2.4 million tons of hay in 1973, valued at $229 million. Alfalfa hay accounted for approximately 2 million tons, with the rest in wild grass, timothy and clover. Montana hay is generally of top-quality, high in protein content and strong enough so that in many areas no more than one to two tons is needed to winter a cow and calf.

Because of its abundance, several alfalfa pelleting plants have been established, with opportunities for additional plants. Such plants could produce for both Montana and for export to other states and countries.

Certified seed potatoes is a growing program in Montana. From fertile valleys surrounded by mountains, additional acres are being certified. In 1970, certified seed acres numbered 4,783 with 185 certified virus free, by 1973 these figures became 4,613 certified and 1,664 virus free.

Honey ranks as another important Montana pro-

Animals are raised on the range as well as feed lots to provide beef, pork and mutton for market (Garry Wunderwald photo).

duced commodity. The state is the largest producer of truly premium quality honey, and is known as the heart of mild-flavored, heavy-bodied, clover honey production.

Most commercial honey packers in the U.S. consider Montana honey too superior in quality to pack directly, so it is blended with inferior-flavored and high-moisture honeys of other regions.

Approximately 8 million pounds of the delicate, low-moisture, clover-flavored honey, is produced annually. The predominant source of nectar are wild yellow sweet clover and alfalfa. There is a major growth potential for honey production both from uncultivated areas and irrigated sweet clover forage areas. Some agriculture sources estimate production could be increased by 36% within five years. The industry already has a bulk facility to efficiently handle and ship honey.

Beef of superior quality has long been produced in Montana, as the state's reputation testifies. The picture of cattle peacefully grazing in lush mountain meadows is a realistic view as more than 3,380,000 head are spread over Montana's acres. The large beef herd, which ranks eighth in the nation, produced 1,730,000 calves in 1973, more than any of the other 11 western states.

The industry and its representative agencies have been innovators in disease eradication programs, performance, indexing, artifical insemination, and purebred herd development.

Montana beef breeding stock are known as genetically superior in the feedlot and in carcass quality. The herds now have a higher percentage of performance indexed individuals than any state in the nation.

The "premium" of purebred seed stock beef cattle of the U.S. are found in Montana. In the last two years, Montana breeders have been the number one producer of quality purebred seed stock in the nation and the world. In the last two years, the National Steer Champion, the National Champion Polled Hereford Bull, the National Champion Polled Hereford Heifer and the National Champion Shorthorn Bull came from the Big Sky Country state. Montana is recognized for premium Charolois, Angus, Hereford, Polled Hereford, Shorthorn, Simmental, Main Anjou, and Limosine cattle.

Hog production is strong and growing. The quality hogs produce superior pork carcasses. Data from the National Barrow Show and the Montana Northern International Livestock Exposition provide quantative comparisons of quality factors.

> The inches of back fat at National recently were 1.20 while in Montana were 1.18; the sq. in of loin eye at national were 5.48 while at Montana were 5.29; and the percent

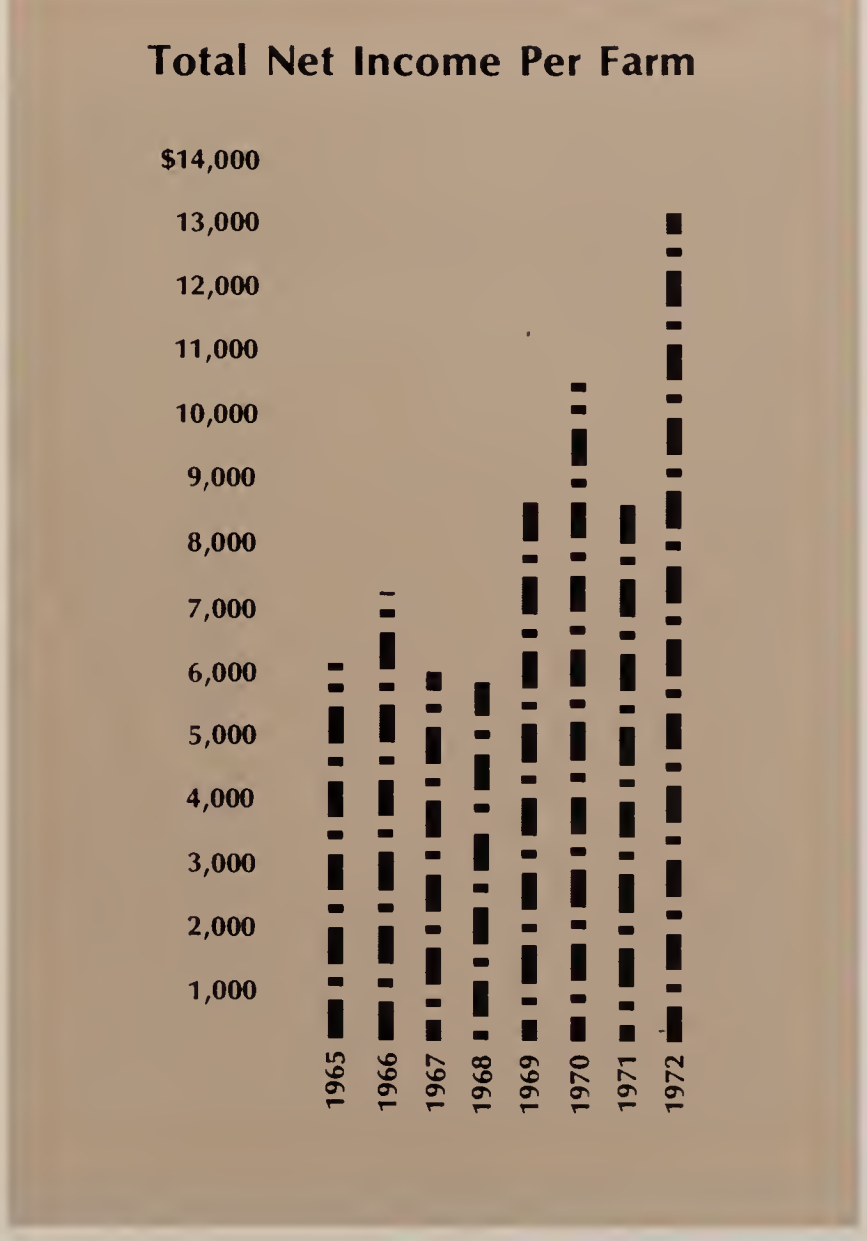
of ham at National was 16.0, while at Montana 17.1. In addition, 85% of four full loads of Montana hogs in a recent carcass project scored in U.S. grades 1 and 2, above average quality.

Sheep are also produced in Montana. The average ewe produces 10 lbs. of wool annually and at least one lamb. This total production of 8,501,000 lbs. of wool and 625,000 lambs in 1973 ranks the state sixth nationally.

Trout farming is also growing in Montana. Farmers and ranchers are raising trout for processing by a Montana firm much the same as other livestock. This is a largely untapped food source and production possibility.

Montana agri-business is an example of dynamic change and applied technology. As it moves through this decade it will play an increasingly more important role in the economic and social well being of Montana and significantly contribute to supplying the demand of domestic and international markets.

Harvesting corn under the clear blue of the Big Sky Country (Wayne Arnst photo).



Timber supplies and products Available

Wood products production forms an integral part of Montana's economy, particularly in the western part of the state. This industry also affords excellent opportunities for future development.

Almost one-fourth of Montana bears a tree cover with fully 70% of all the forested land classed as Commercial Forest Land — capable of raising a timber crop for harvest.

According to the U.S. Forest Service, more than one billion board feet of logs are harvested annually for use by sawmills, plywood plants, a pulp and paper mill, post and pole plants, log house manufacturers, and other wood-using businesses.

Montana-produced wood products are marketed nationwide. Studies by the American Plywood Association show that most plywood goes to midwest and eastern markets.

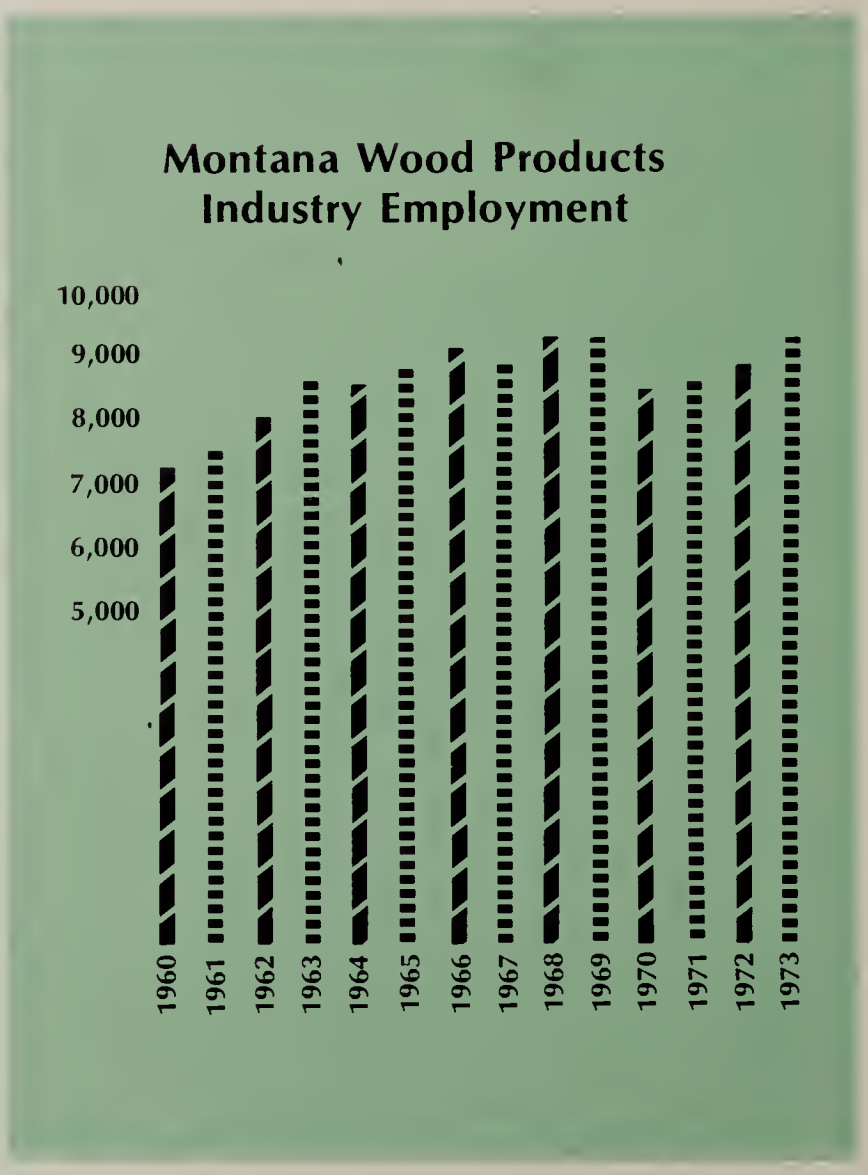
Today as the nation heads into its bicentennial era a virtually untapped potential lies ready within Montana's forestry industry. This is the field of secondary processing and manufacturing. The future potential can use Montana's basic wood products to manufacture specific consumer products. Presently most of the state's wood products are shipped to other areas for remanufacture into consumer products.

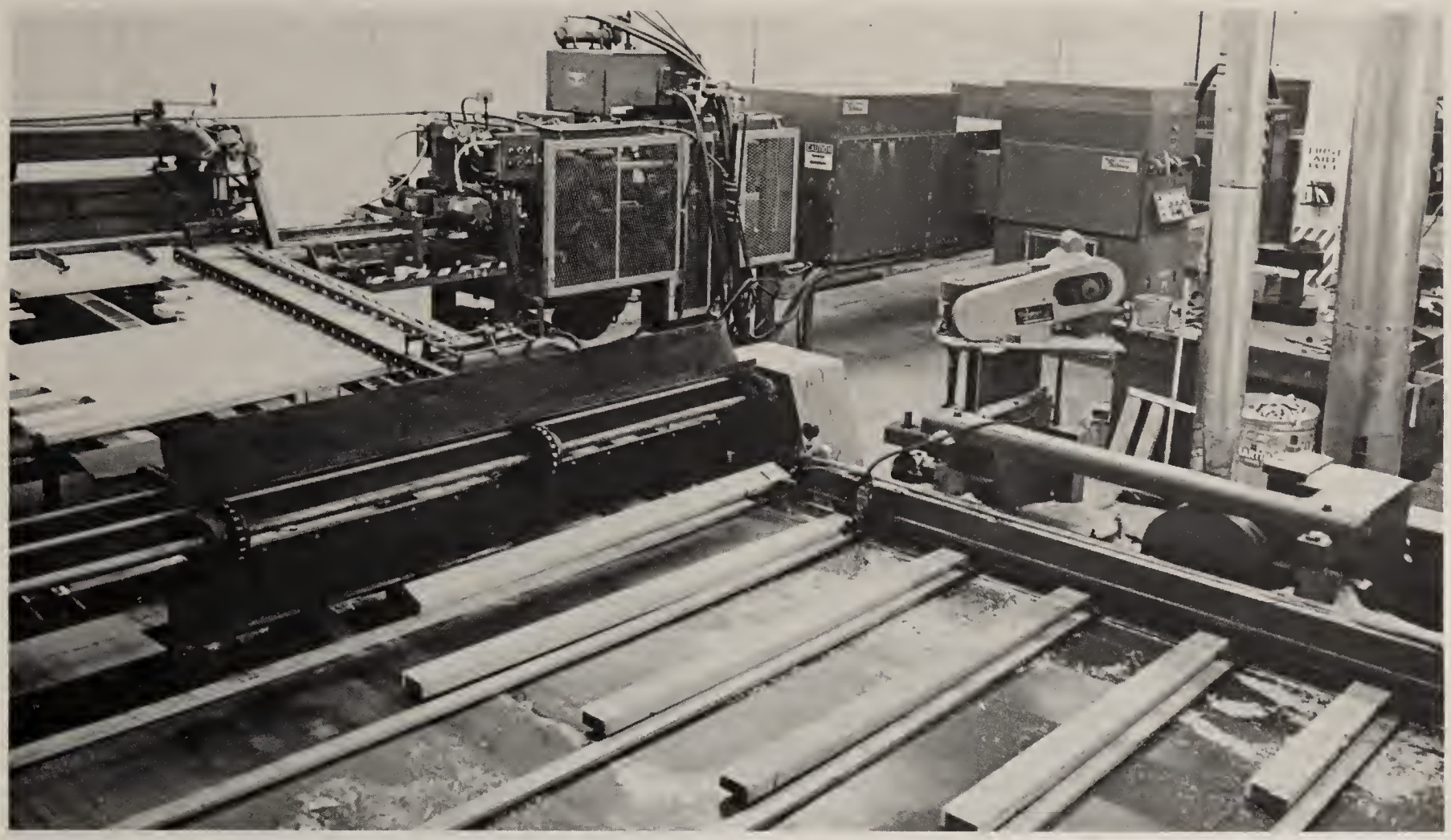
"Expansion Opportunities for the Wood Products Industry in Western Montana" is the title of a report issued by the Center for Industrial Development at Bozeman. This report explains why secondary processing would be feasible and provides many examples of products, such as:

roof trusses
finger jointed stock
pattern stock
mobile homes
pre-fab or modular homes
cut-to-size plywood and particleboard
plywood and particleboard overlays
window frames
doors and door frames
mouldings
bark—fuel, humus, decorative, livestock bedding

Currently the U.S. Forest Service estimates that Montana has more than 100 sawmills and stud mills, five plywood plants, one particleboard plant and one specialty fiberboard plant, one pulp and paper mill, five wood pressure treating plants, and numerous small-wood-using operations manufactur-

Scaling another load of Montana timber (U.S. Forest Service photo).





Finger-jointing short 2x4's into long lengths in Montana plants saves wood (Ray Dominick photo).

ing house logs, fence posts, fence railing and other products . . .

The pulp and paper mill has initiated a major expansion and the fiberboard plant recently went into operation.

Secondary manufacturing is at a minimum, and as mentioned above, prime for expansion. With western Montana containing scenic lands drawing new residents continuously, a growing and dedicated labor force is insured.

MONTANA FOREST SPECIES and SAWTIMBER PRODUCTION

Species	Volume of growing stock (million cu. ft.)		Volume of sawtimber (million board ft.) (Int'l. 1/4" log rule)	
	1962[2]	1970[1]	1962[2]	1970[1]
Douglas-fir and larch	10,322	10,164	51,148	43,484
Ponderosa pine	2,481	2,377	12,405	10,891
Lodgepole pine	6,124	9,544	13,496	22,078
Engelmann spruce	2,145	2,479	11,618	11,590
White pine	315	352	1,605	1,732
True firs	3,253	2,364	14,287	7,047
Western hemlock	911	313	3,346	1,372
Western red cedar	579	271	2,478	1,142
Other softwoods	356	513	1,416	1,590
All softwoods[3]	26,486	28,376	111,799	100,925
All hardwoods	284	274	838	1,093
All species[3]	26,770	28,650	112,637	102,018

1. "Forest Statistics for the United States, by State and Region, 1970," Forest Service, USDA, 1972.
2. "Timber Resources and Industries in the Rocky Mountain States," Forest Service, USDA, 1967.
3. Data may not add to totals because of rounding.

Minerals

Untapped lodes of Ore for the future

Mineral development remains a vast and largely untapped resource of Montana. According to the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, the state's mineral reserve is believed to be enormous, and exploration activities have recently reached an all-time high and are expected to continue increasing.

Historically, the "draw" to Montana was mineral. Gold was the magnet that attracted southern refugees and many others. Mining towns grew, prospered; and then virtually abandoned, became ghostly reminders of a once great period of American history. Although gold was the first lure, it was the discovery and production of copper, other base metals, and coal that provided an early base for continued growth.

Butte became the "richest hill on earth" and achieved a population of 100,000 near the end of World War I on the basis of copper, gold and silver ore. Lead, zinc, and manganese have also become a permanent part of the Montana economy.

Montana's oil and gas industry began to grow in the 20's, but coal was the major fuel until the 40's (and is now rebounding). Actually in the early 40's Montana's Colstrip mine was probably the largest surface coal producer in the nation, but the burgeon-

Exploring for gas is a never ending task necessary to supply fuel for the future (Stu White photo).

SELECTED MONTANA MINERAL PRODUCTION

	1960	1970	1971	1972	1973	Measure
Clay	63,000	41,000	264,000	304,000	268,000	Short Tons
Coal	313,000	3,447,000	7,064,000	8,221,000	9,950,000	Short Tons
Copper	91,972	120,412	88,581	123,110	129,825	Short Tons
Gold	45,922	22,456	15,613	23,725	26,625	Troy Ounces
Iron Ore	55,000	14,000	14,000	9,000	9,000	Long Tons
Lead	4,879	996	615	287	190	Short Tons
Sand & Gravel	12,589,000	19,275,000	15,781,000	10,116,000	10,317,000	Short Tons
Silver	3,607,000	4,304,000	2,748,000	3,325,000	4,175,000	Troy Ounces
Stone	1,183,000	6,501,000		4,074,000	3,919,000	Short Tons

The mammoth, Berkeley pit of Anaconda Co. at Butte is a 'never-ending' source of copper, gold and silver (Garry Wunderwald photo).

ing state oil industry developed into a revenue producer by the mid-50's.

Today the picture is changing. There remains little doubt that coal will become the king of mineral production for Montana in the last quarter of this century. Petroleum and natural gas will continue to play a vital role in the energy picture, and it is generally agreed that Montana has the greatest potential for discovery of new fields of any non-coastal state.

While the easily found deposits of valuable metals are gone, Montana is regarded as having one of the highest potentials for metallic mineral development in the nation. Deposits of copper, other base metals, molybdenum, tungsten, nickel, gold, silver, antimony, and chrome are being evaluated. Iron deposits are mapped and available for production as soon as favorable economic conditions exist. The prospect for future siting of steel plants in western Montana is good according to the Montana Bureau of Mines.

Montana may be unique in that in one area it has mineral deposits containing all the elements needed to produce most if not all of the specified varieties of stainless steel.

Butte is the center of metal-mining operations in Montana. Increased production and new ore-reduction works are going on stream. The Anaconda Company recently opened its second copper mining pit in the area and has initiated its new non-polluting Arbiter process for copper refining. In addition to copper, Butte produces considerable gold and silver. It also has large zinc reserves which are not being mined at the present time.

Vast deposits of phosphate rock lie fully mapped in southwestern Montana, and commercial bentonite is common in eastern Montana. Both commodities are in production at present, and production will likely increase because of the national need for fertilizer and material suitable for the pelletizing of iron ore. Uranium and vanadium may become by-products of future phosphate processing. Sand and gravel provide the greatest income of all nonmetallic commodities now in production. Montana is a leading producer of vermiculite and talc; building

Mineral exploration is rapidly expanding in mineral-rich Montana (Stu White photo).

stone and limestone also contribute to state mineral production.

Several deposits of low-grade tungsten ore are being evaluated, and prospects for production are enhanced by rising prices for imports.

Current interest focuses on the vast low-sulfur surface-minable coal in eastern Montana's Fort Union coal region. Coal production is accelerating, and a total annual production of 41 million tons is expected in 1980. The Fort Union Region is common to Montana, Wyoming, and North Dakota, and these states would seem to have the greatest potential for mineral fuels development in the nation.

Field evaluation programs of the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology in cooperation with the EPA and the U.S. Geological Survey have reliably established reserves in excess of 42 billion tons of coal at depths of less than 350 feet. Continued exploration is expected to raise the total beyond 50 billion tons. The need for coal to balance the nation's energy import situation is obvious. Development of Montana's coal energy will stimulate the search for and utilization of many other mineral resources throughout the state.

The prices for all mineral commodities are rising, and this trend will likely continue throughout the present decade, if not longer. Production of mineral raw materials is certain to increase, and the increase must be spectacular if the nation's energy and material needs are to be fully met.

The potential for mineral development (besides coal already being developed) lies in the fact that actually only a small part of Montana has been explored by modern sophisticated methods. Significant additional deposits of copper, base metals, tungsten, precious metals, etc., probably remain to be found.

Energy

Power for growth with water and new potentials for tomorrow

As the nation struggles for gas, oil, coal, electrical energy and fuel, Montana ranks fortunate to be more on the "have" side than the "want" side of the scramble.

Beginning with an electrical generation base founded on water, Montana is able to produce some 9,388 million kilowatt hours (KWH) of electricity. About 83% of this amount is based on hydro-electric generating dams.

But while expansion of hydro-electric power is limited, with some new stations coming on line in 1975-76, low-sulphur coal is abundant in eastern Montana.

The Fort Union Basin, a mammoth coal deposit scattered through eastern Montana and three neighboring states and Canada, contains an enormous quantity of coal. More than 42.5 billion tons relatively close to the surface and strip-minable lie in eastern Montana.

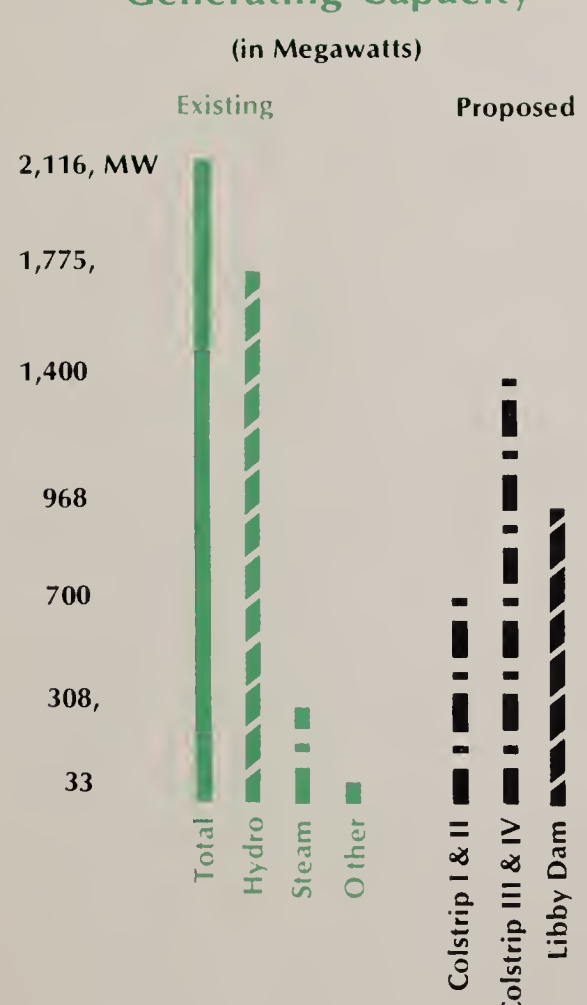
In 1975 and '76 two mine-mouth power plants totaling 700MW will start feeding electricity into the state and neighboring western states. These are mine-mouth plants because they are located near the coal mines eliminating long distance shipping of coal.

Additional electrical energy will also come on line in 1975 from the Libby Dam project in northwest Montana. Eight units of 121 megawatts each will be phased into operation starting in July 1975. Later, it is expected that a regulating dam will be built below the main Libby dam, and this will produce about 46 megawatts for a total Libby Dam project capacity of about 1,014 megawatts.

When, where, and how future electric generating plants will be built now requires two years of public study under the state's Major Facility Siting Act. The purpose of this act is to evaluate the compatibility of plant site locations and potential pollution with the environment and needs of the citizens.

Montana has also enacted a land reclamation law to protect and restore the environment in those areas of strip-mining. Montana coal is particularly attractive because of both its low-sulfur content which reduces pollution and also because of its great quantity within small areas. Unlike eastern U.S. strip-mines where coal beds may be only 3-4 feet thick, the coal seams here are frequently 16 ft. or even 30 ft. thick. In fact the relative thickness

Montana Peak Electrical Generating Capacity



Montana low-sulphur coal in thick seams is a potential intermediate energy-fuel solution.

of the coal seams at depths less than 150 feet is indicated by the average of 37 thousand tons per acre.

With one-fifth of the United States strippable coal lying in Montana, it is to be expected that this resource will have a major effect on the state's future. But it should also be noted that the coal resources of Montana are more than four times what is currently considered strippable.

Coal production has been rising steadily in recent years. Beginning with about 7 million tons in 1971 and 11 million in 1973, the Montana Energy Advisory Council has estimated production of some 40 million tons annually by 1980. This latter rate would indicate enough strippable coal for a thousand years, although the rate is expected to climb much higher.

The outlook for other fuels in Montana is a mixed bag. Both natural gas and oil are produced in the state with extensive exploration continuing.

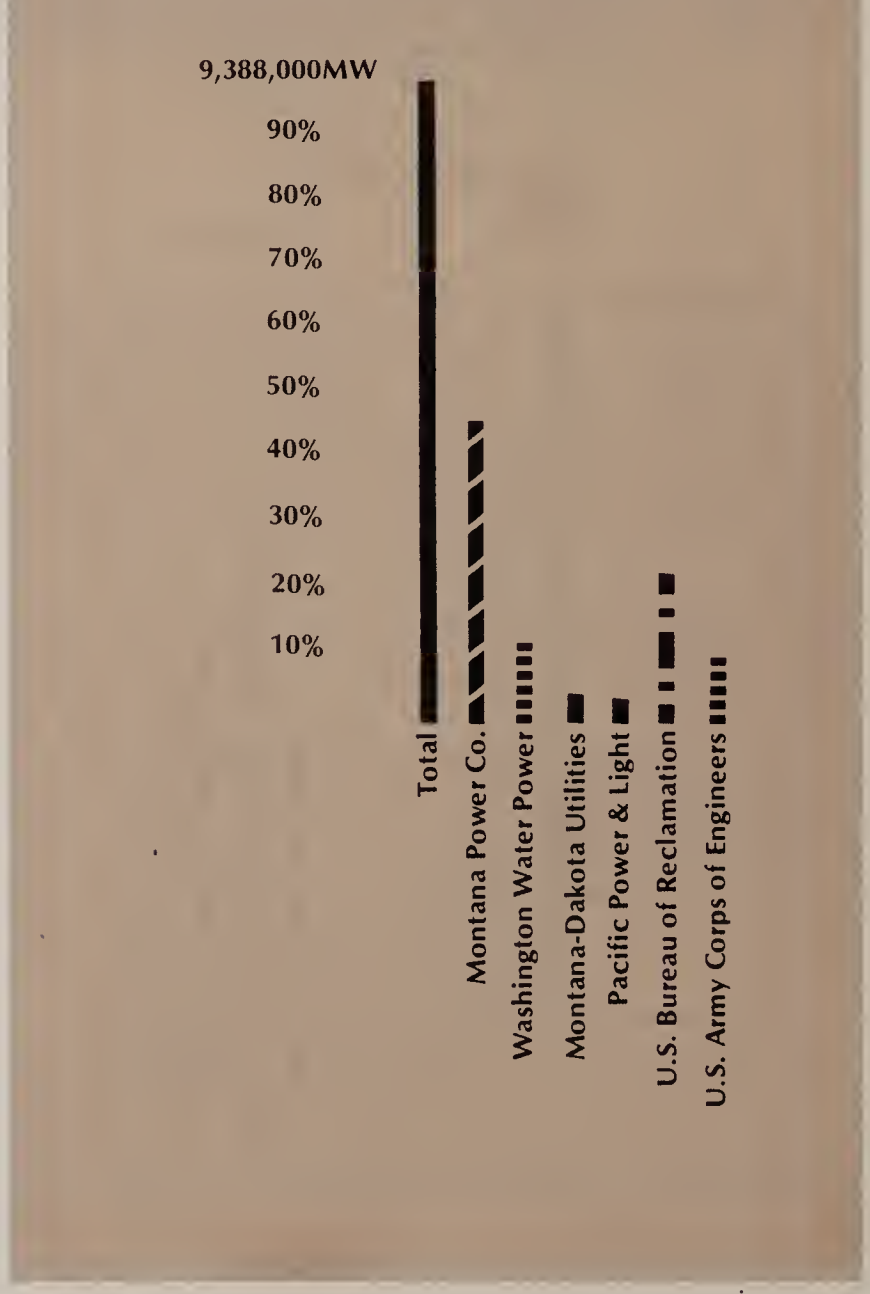
In 1974 Montana's proven recoverable reserves of natural gas amounted to 1,092 billion cubic feet. In addition, 772 billion C.F. of proven reserves were under contract by the Montana Power Company in Canada. Approximately 45 billion C.F. were produced in the state in 1973 while about 80 billion C.F. were consumed. Of the amount consumed, about 59% was imported from Canada.

The Montana Power Company has stated that while residential and commercial customers evidently will have gas for the near future, supplies for large industrial customers is short.

One proposed answer to potential gas shortages is the refinement of coal into gas. This has been done

1973 Montana Electrical Generation

(MW=megawatt=1 million watts=1,000 kilowatts)



Drilling for alternate energy sources ranging from geothermal to oil to gas is moving ahead in Montana (Ray Dominick photo).

Growing coal mines must be followed by reclamation under Montana law so sites like this will be returned to agriculture land.

in some countries, however the technology remains largely untested for large scale efforts. One of the drawbacks to conversion of coal into gas is the apparent huge amount of water that is consumed in the process — water that may otherwise be used for agriculture. Numerous companies, however, are exploring avenues of converting coal to gas to head off future shortages.

Oil production in Montana remained steady at about 34 million barrels a year through 1973, just before the U.S. entered its energy crunch. Exploration for oil was stepped up in 1974 and the refineries in the state have operated at full capacity ever since.

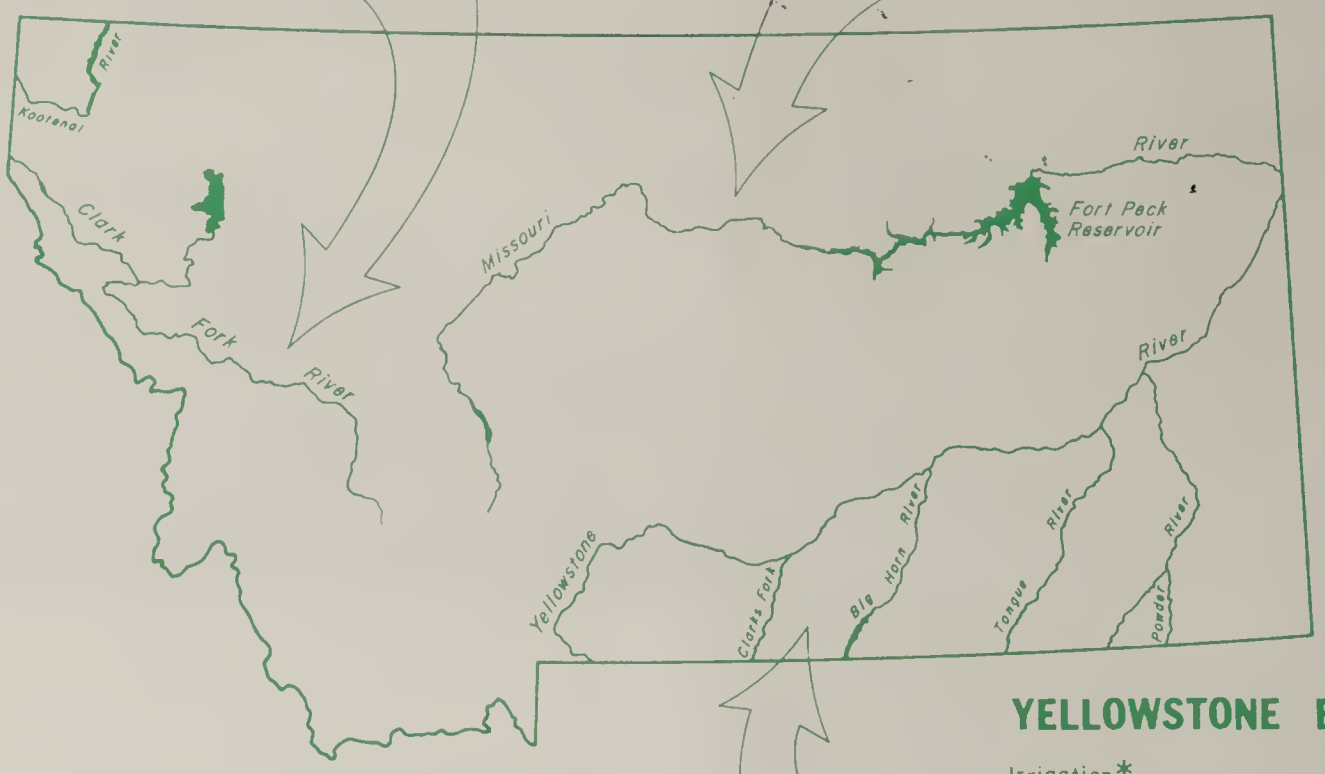
Montana was fortunate during the '73-'74 gasoline shortage. It did not share the experience of many parts of the country. There were no long lines at gas stations.

Alternative energy sources are also being explored in Montana. Through a grant from the National Science Foundation, research has been conducted near Helena on potential geothermal energy. The idea is to tap the heat inside the earth to power steam generators and produce electricity.

The western U.S. and particularly Montana, seem to produce higher heat flow measurements closer to the surface than in other areas of the country. Private exploration near Helena, the state capitol, continues in the search for viable geothermal energy.

The potential indicates cheap production of electrical energy if a means can be devised to tap hot solid rock or hot water or steam lying within the earth.

The future of consistent, relatively inexpensive electrical energy looks good for Montana, contrasted to many other parts of the country. Water from the rivers of Montana power turbines, providing most of the state's energy with additional increases coming later this decade. This, plus the abundant coal supplies, and the potential for using the earth's own heat, indicate a reliable future.



COLUMBIA BASIN

Irrigation*	4057.6
Self-supplied Industrial	85.3
Municipal & Industrial	56.4
Livestock	3.9
Rural Domestic	7.3
Thermoelectric	0

MISSOURI BASIN

Irrigation*	12,183.0
Self-supplied Industrial	17.2
Municipal & Industrial	47.2
Livestock	19.0
Rural Domestic	8.8
Thermoelectric	0

YELLOWSTONE BASIN

Irrigation*	5924.2
Self-supplied Industrial	50.2
Municipal & Industrial	29.5
Livestock	10.7
Rural Domestic	3.5
Thermoelectric	162.0

* Average daily water use over a six-month period

Figure A. Withdrawals by River Basin (million gallons per day)

Water

Flowing water for food, business and people

Two recurrent themes frequently mentioned in Montana are that Montana is blessed with an abundance of clean, fresh water . . . and that water is a most precious commodity, and surely a factor that may limit development.

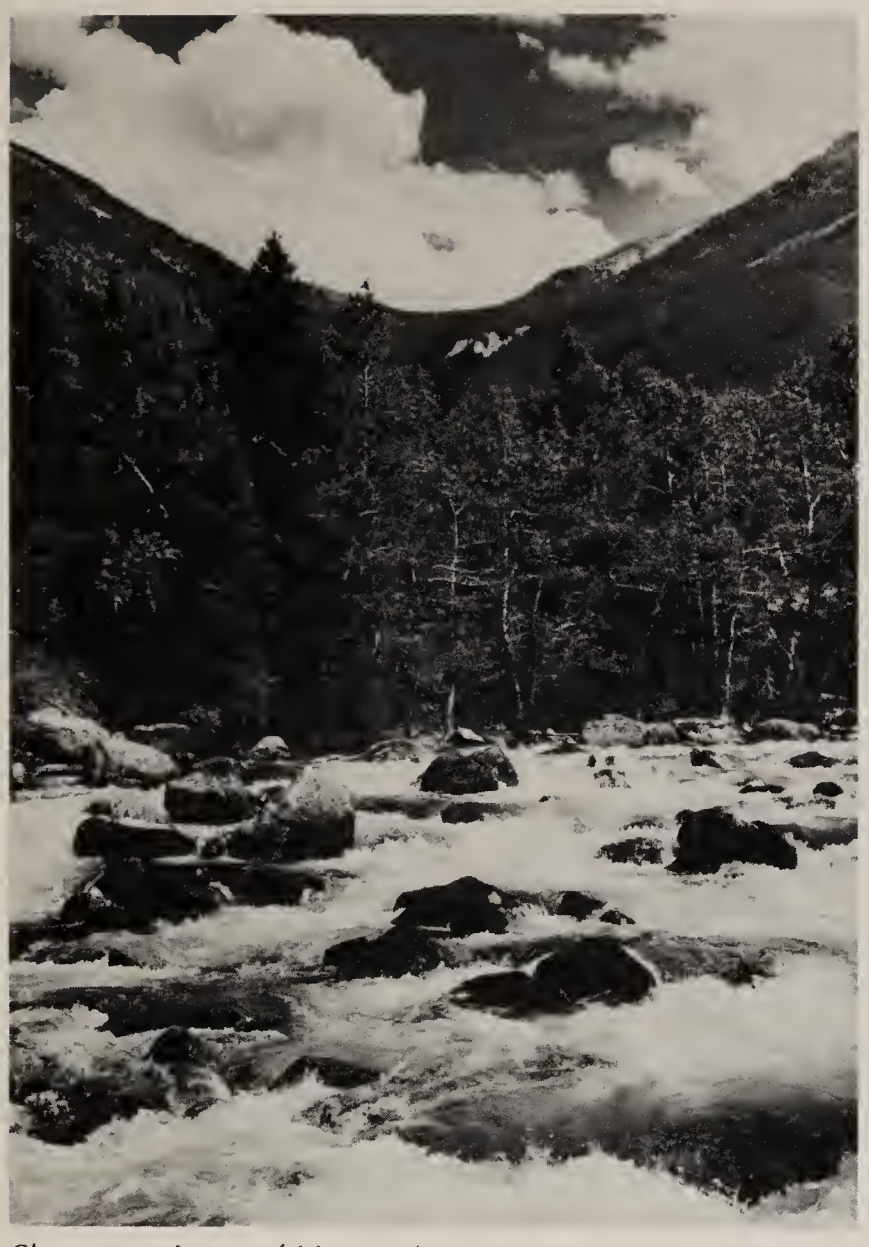
Montana's clean, fresh water does share some of the highest honors in the nation. Blue-ribbon trout streams abound and most any river is so clean a visitor can easily see the shiny smooth pebbles on the river bottom.

But today, it is the preciousness of the water that concerns Montanans in trying to decide how the water shall be used.

As seen by the table on this page, 22,666 million gallons of water are used daily for various purposes ranging from irrigation to home uses. Not quite half of this water is useable a second time for a different purpose.

Non-diversion uses are more difficult to quantify, but the U.S. Geological Survey estimated that 72,000 million gallons per day flow through the 19 hydroelectric plants doting Montana (excluding Libby Dam).

Based on the above information sources, Montana's Department of Natural Resources and Conservation estimates that the state's total water supply is used at least twice before an average flow of 39,000 million gallons leaves the state daily via various rivers and streams.



Clean water is one of Montana's treasures.

Exactly how much water is used, when, where, by whom, from which source, and for what purpose remains uncertain. The Montana Water Use Act of 1973 requires the state to compile all of this information and keep it in a central file.

Coal development and related energy proposals in eastern Montana have heightened the demand and concern for water. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation projected in 1972 that 2.6 million acre feet (one acre foot equals 325,900 gallons) of water would be required from the Yellowstone Basin waters for coal development in Montana and Wyoming by the year 2002. By early 1974, less than two years later, filings, options, applications and requests of Montana's portion alone already reached half that figure (1.3 million acre feet).

These pressures for water resulted in the passage of a three-year moritorium bill by the 1974 legislature which places a hold on any application for a flow of 20 or more cubic feet per second or for storage of 14,000 or more acre feet of Yellowstone Basin surface waters. Applications may still be submitted but not granted during this period while the state determines more precisely how much water is available, according to the process set up under the Montana Water Use Act of 1973.

In the meantime, a number of studies of the Yellowstone Basin will help in evaluating options and developing plans to best utilize the resources of the area. The studies are examining the impacts of additional water withdrawals on aquatic and terrestrial wildlife, irrigations, recreations, water quality, and municipal water supplies.

The Missouri Basin is also beginning to receive additional attention for water users. All of these factors need to be considered as Montana moves toward a state water plan.

Montana's water is clean, but how abundant for tomorrow's uses, know one knows — yet.

WATER WITHDRAWLS AND CONSUMPTION IN MONTANA

(Million Gallons Per Day)

Purpose	Amount Withdrawn And Percentage Of All Withdrawls	Withdrawl Source: Surface	Withdrawl Source: Ground	Portion Of Withdrawl Consumed
Irrigation [1]	22,164.8 (95.7%)	21,943.2 (99%)	221.6 (1%)	11,714.8 (53%)
Thermo-electric [2]	162.0 (1.4%)	162.0 (100%)	None	0.3 (Under 1%)
Self-Supplied Industrial [3]	152.7 (1.3%)	118.8 (78%)	33.9 (22%)	22.9 (15%)
Municipal [4]	133.1 (1.1%)	91.2 (68%)	41.9 (32%)	49.0 (37%)
Livestock	33.6 (.3%)	16.8 (50%)	16.8 (50%)	33.7 (100%)
Rural Domestic	19.6 (.2%)	None	19.6 (100%)	19.6 (100%)
TOTALS	22,665.8 (100%)	22,332.0 (98.5%)	333.8 (1.5%)	11,840.3 (52.2%)
			Reservoir Evaporation	993.0
			Total Amount Removed From Other Uses	12,833.3

1 Average daily water use over a six-month period.
2 Water used in the generation of power from thermal fuel sources, such as coal.
3. Industrial water supplied by industries rather than obtained from municipal sources.
4 Commercial, residential and industrial water furnished through public water systems.

Transportation

Speedy people and product movement

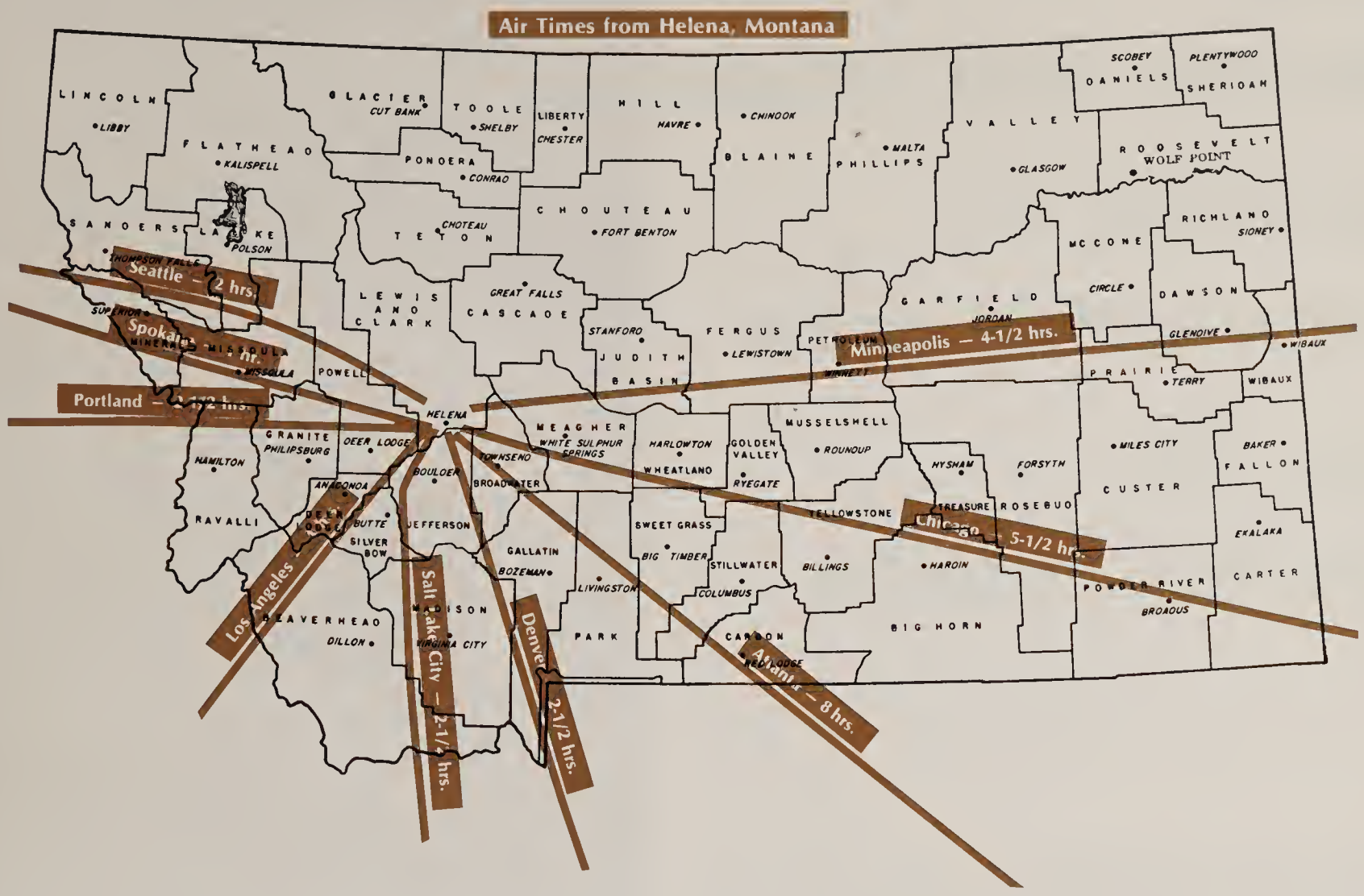
Rail cars move in every direction across Montana for fast shipment of goods (Wayne Arnst photo).

Efficient movement of people and goods is a basic necessity for economic growth, as well as general well-being. Montana's former reputation as a state hard to get around in, is fading rapidly.

Major highways now criss-cross the state connecting the major communities and commercial centers of other states. The Interstate System includes I-90 going east-west from Chicago, Minneapolis, Bismarck, through Montana to Spokane and Seattle. I-15 runs north-south from Canada through Montana to Salt Lake City and points beyond.

In addition to the Interstate other major U.S. highways cross Montana. These include U.S. 2 along the highline, running east-west just below the Canadian border and around Glacier National Park. U.S. 12 and 87 run through the middle of the state while U.S. 93 runs north-south in the western part connecting I-90 to U.S. 2 for traffic to Flathead Lake and Glacier National Park. Of course numerous state highways and county roads connect all of Montana's communities.

Railroads traverse the state to offer major service to shippers and receivers of goods and products. More than 5,000 miles of rail connect Montana points to other states and markets. The major lines serving the state are the Burlington Northern and the Milwaukee Railroad along with the Union Pacific.



Heavy rail has been laid on the main lines and constant effort maintains the tracks in top condition for speedy movement of freight.

Passenger service is also offered by Amtrak on the Burlington Northern's lines running east-west along both the north border and through the southern route across the state.

Fast freight schedules carry Montana goods to California, the Gulf Coast, Mississippi valley and to ships heading for Alaska. The railroad's services also extend to industrial sites and development research and aid.

Bus lines serve all large Montana communities and most small towns. Efficient freight service as well as passenger service is offered.

Air transportation is growing in Montana. New terminals recently opened in Billings and Great Falls. Helena, the state's capitol, has plans underway for a new passenger terminal while completion is scheduled for 1975 on a livestock air shipping facility adjacent to the airport.

The major lines serving Montana include: Northwest Orient, Western, Frontier and Hughes Air West. Both passenger and freight service is offered.

The Port of Butte is a recently opened shipping facility specializing in containerized cargos received directly from ships docking at Seattle, or for foreign shipments through the Seattle port. The Port of Butte offers low cost unpacking and breaking down of shipments for distribution to other U.S. ports plus warehousing facilities.

The Helena livestock shipping facility offers direct air shipment of live animals such as cows to foreign markets. Shipments have already been made to Japan and other Asian markets.

Both the Port of Butte and Helena air facility are unique ports offering cost savings to importers and exporters serving the Northwest, Midwest and other parts of the U.S.

Tourism

History and nature produce an unbeatable draw for the big sky country

Exciting rodeos occur throughout Montana all summer (Garry Wunderwald photo).

Tourism offers opportunities for many persons and communities of Montana, besides great times for the welcomed visitor. With the U.S. Bicentennial era here communities and individuals can share both the heritage and the horizons of the future with themselves and their visitors.

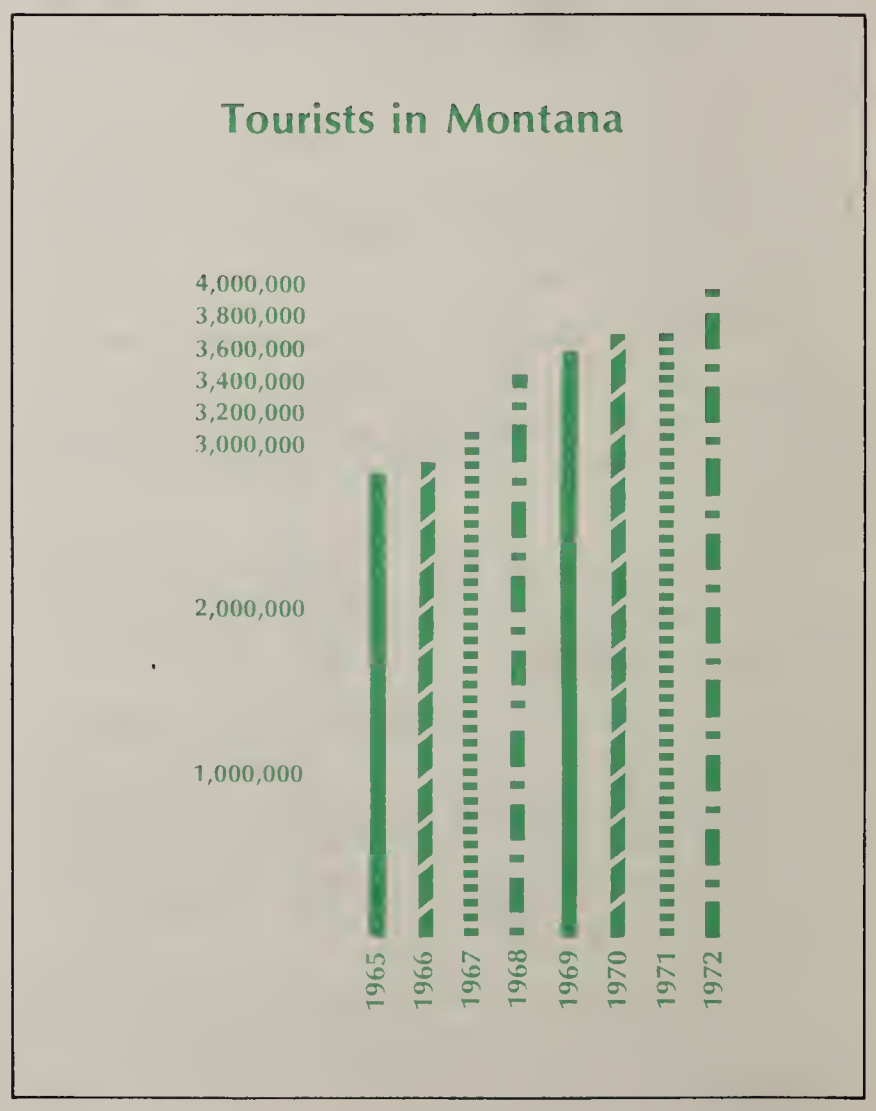
Montana is the last of the many splendors . . . the great vacation escape . . . Its scenery is second to none, it's rich with historical treasures and places.

Communities, aided by the Montana Bicentennial Administration, are preserving their heritage for the benefit of their community and all the peoples of the U.S. Also, under the Bicentennials Horizons and festivals programs, efforts are being initiated to benefit the community now and in the future through projects of enjoyment and ones that will last through time.

Already the visitor has numerous choices to see and do in Montana. The lists in the boxes with this article mention but a few. In addition the State of Montana has produced a number of films about the big sky country and these can be previewed by groups and on TV to show the potential of a Montana vacation.

The fact that Montanans treasure their state and its past is evident by the actions of many of its communities and citizens. Preservation and restoration of St. Mary's Mission in Stevensville, south of Missoula, is an example of community spirit and pride that has resulted in a lasting tribute and treasure for all Americans.

Other examples of such effort abound across Montana, from those who participate in retaining



Skiing is a favorite Montana sport with conditions and snow to please anyone (Montana Travel Promotion photo).

Typical Tourist Activities

Art Areas
Backpacking
Boating
Dude Ranching
Fishing
Ghost Towns
Horseback Riding
Museums
National Historic Places
Photography
Rodeos
Snow Skiing
State Parks and Monuments
Water Skiing

the memory of Custer's Last Stand, restoring the Bozeman Hotel, building a Pioneer Village in Great Falls, or restoring Helena's famed Reeder's Alley which fosters the arts and crafts.

Visitors have a multitude of choices in Montana, which is probably why it's a growing area of interest for visitors. Besides the 'historic' there is the country itself. A backpacker's dream enjoyed by both the avid hiker and the casual walker, and even the tour bus passenger.

Some parts of the big sky country can be described as both country and historic. Like Virginia City, a once dying ghost town, now preserved so the visitor can see what life was "when," and even enjoy an old-fashion play.

Gates of the Mountains near Helena is historic because it was so named by the explorers Lewis & Clark for its very appearance. Yet this scenic area is also breathtaking for its beauty and striking steep rock formations along the Missouri River and original Indian paintings on the rocks.

The opportunity for expansion of recreation facilities remain multi-faceted. The publication "Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation in Montana" by the Soil Conservation Service is one reference source complete with maps.

Testimony to Montana's growth as a year-round vacation land is visible from the activity already occurring throughout the state. The largest and perhaps most nationally known project is Big Sky of Montana, spearheaded by the late Chet Huntley. This recreation resort near Yellowstone National Park, features year-long activities ranging from golf to dude ranching to skiing. Two distinct "villages" lie on the property, one in the "meadow" and the other in an "alpine" setting. The awe-inspiring gondola ski lift can be ridden just for sight-seeing, winter or summer.

The Fairmont Hot Springs resort at Gregson, near Anaconda features year-round activity with the central attraction being the three indoor and outdoor pools fed by natural hot springs. Nearby skiing and other outdoor activities complete this recreation-convention complex.

Flathead Lake and Big Mountain near Whitefish offer many activities from skiing to boating only

Lewis and Clark camped here on July 25, 1806 and Clark left his signature carved into this, Pompeys Pillar (Garry Wunderwald photo).

a few miles from famed Glacier Park. And only a few miles from Yellowstone National Park, Ski Yellowstone is being planned by noted skier Hans Geier with opportunities for outdoor activity every month of the year.

But all the joy of being a tourist also lies in seeing towns and people who live a different lifestyle, and there are few different than those with western big sky casualness and friendship. Montana communities, with the bicentennial in mind, are sharing these attributes with their visitors by being sure their town is always a place one is proud to visit and live in, a town that says welcome.

The bicentennial gives every American an incentive to see and share his country with others. Montana is no different. Its communities offer a glimpse at a completely different way of life, and through bicentennial activities enrich the value of that lifestyle by those who live it daily.

Historic sites such as St. Mary's mission at Stevensville have been restored throughout the state, frequently with aid from the Montana Bicentennial Administration (Montana Travel Promotion photo).

Services for investors and communities to develop a strong economy

Montana welcomes responsible new industry and business ventures. The state provides income (license) and property tax incentives to new and expanding industries to encourage them to locate in Montana. In addition the state freeport law eliminates inventory taxes on goods-in-transit through Montana.

State government has gone through a series of efficiency and modernization moves in recent years. A new constitution was adopted to replace the original 1889 version. The executive branch of state government was reorganized by either eliminating or consolidating some 160 boards, bureaus and commissions into 19 major agencies under the direct jurisdiction of the governor. This reorganization makes it easier for industry and all private citizens to know whom to contact about particular concerns.

Sources of industrial financing include industrial revenue bonds, the Development Credit Corporation of Montana, banks and other lending institutions and local development corporations. Federal agencies such as the Small Business Administration, the Economic Development Administration, and the Farmers Home Administration are quite aggressive in Montana.

Montana has no general sales or use taxes, but has personal and corporate income taxes. Property taxes account for approximately 54% of tax revenue although the state grants a 77% reduction in property taxes for the first three years of operation to new qualifying industries. Also, a permanent 77% tax reduction is granted for air pollution control equipment. A new law phases-in over five year's property taxes relating to building restoration and repair. In addition a one mill levy may be assessed by state political subdivisions for economic development.

The state eliminates inventory taxes on merchandise stocks produced outside Montana and in transit through the state to final destinations outside Montana. This merchandise can be stored in-state and work can be performed upon it, but it must be destined for out-of-state shipment.

Montana's economic development division serves new or expanding industry by providing information needed to make location or expansion decisions. The division also provides aid in arranging financing and by arranging meetings that may help a firm with its business problems. Another function of the department is to help analyze markets and promote marketing of Montana products.

Montana Government Agencies

Mailing Address: Capitol Station
Helena, MT 59601

Dept. of Administration
Dept. of Agriculture
State Auditors' Office
Bicentennial Administration
Dept. of Business Regulation
Citizens Advocate
Dept. of Community Affairs
Dept. of Education
Dept. of Fish and Game
Dept. of Health and Environmental Sciences
Dept. of Highways
Historical Society, Library and Museum
Dept. of Institutions
Dept. of Justice
Dept. of Labor and Industry
Dept. of State Lands
Dept. of Livestock
Dept. of Military Affairs
Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation
Dept. of Professional and Occupational Licensing
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Dept. of Public Service Regulation
Dept. of Revenue
Secretary of State
Dept. of Social and Rehabilitation Services
Travel Promotion

Scenic Montana offers many opportunities for investment and relaxation (Garry Wunderwald photo).

Environment

A treasureable land year-round

The Big Sky Country says 'environment,' but few 'outsiders' know or understand its pleasing climate. And even the mountain environment pictured in most minds is typical of less than half the state . . . there are so many different and exciting "lands" in Montana.

Clean and Clear stand as the bywords describing the Treasure State. People have been known to say the sky is *too* blue, it can't be real . . . but its there.

The Montana landscape is ever changing, ever different. Eastern parts of the state are strikingly different from the west as are the southern reaches from the north. From ravine etched, lightly rolling eastern portions a traveller gradually climbs to the eastern slopes of the great rocky mountains. Upon

AVERAGE MAXIMUM DAYTIME TEMPERATURES

	JAN.	MARCH	MAY	JULY	SEPT.	NOV.
Montana	27.6	41.3	67.5	85.9	71.2	41.2
Colorado	39.5	51.4	70.9	87.1	77.5	51.9
Illinois	35.6	49.4	72.9	87.5	78.1	50.0
Minnesota	21.5	37.0	65.9	82.0	70.2	38.9
Utah	36.0	52.7	73.4	92.4	80.1	51.6
Washington	39.5	52.8	69.9	83.7	74.6	48.8
Wisconsin	26.7	40.0	67.1	83.3	72.0	42.9

Source: Compiled from long-time records of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration-Environmental Data Service (for major cities in each state)

Eastern Montana is equally captivating with scenic wonders, rivers and wildlife (Garry Wunderwald photo).

meeting the mountains, the traveller discovers the western third of the state is a series of majestic mountain ranges and sweeping valleys laced with lakes and streams.

Temperatures and other climatic factors vary widely both within Montana and at the different seasons. It is true that a few areas often have record temperature extremes of hot and cold, but these are usually sparsely populated areas of the state and do not reflect the temperatures where most Montanans live.

Covered by a swath of emerald forests, golden wheat farms, rolling ranches, coursing clean waters and star gazing mountains, Montana lacks the smog of metro areas, deteriorating water supplies and other environmental hazards so frequently found elsewhere in the United States.

Snows do come to Montana, but so do chinook

AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

(°F, 1921-1950)

	Jan.	March	May	July	Sept.	Nov.
Billings	23.2	33.7	56.8	74.7	60.4	35.1
Great Falls	22.1	30.7	53.0	69.4	57.4	34.3
Helena	18.6	31.4	52.9	68.4	56.0	31.6
Bozeman	20.3	30.1	51.3	66.4	55.8	31.9
Butte	15.1	26.3	47.3	62.7	51.2	27.7
Missoula	19.2	33.7	52.6	67.0	55.4	30.5
Kalispell	19.8	31.8	52.2	65.7	54.7	31.0
Minneapolis	14.6	30.9	58.5	74.1	62.2	33.0
Spokane	25.3	38.1	56.2	70.5	60.9	35.7
Salt Lake City	26.5	41.1	58.9	76.6	64.2	39.3
Madison	19.1	32.5	57.5	73.0	62.1	35.3
Denver	28.7	37.8	56.3	72.8	62.7	39.3
Chicago	24.9	37.0	59.2	74.6	65.6	39.5

The Breaks of the Missouri offers breathtaking views as first seen by explorers Lewis and Clark (Garry Wunderwald photo).

winds, which can change a dry 0 degree situation into a balmy 50 degree in but hours, and keep it there for days. In fact these famous chinook winds come regularly enough to ease the tensions of snow and cold.

The dry climate makes most people feel that it isn't quite so hot or cold as the thermometer might say. The summers have the best combination with warm to hot days for enjoying the sprawling outdoors and cool nights for relaxed, sound sleep.

Besides the thriving, friendly communities described elsewhere in these pages, the Montana landscape is dotted with historical reminders of the past. These ghost towns, archelogical sites and old west trail locations impart upon the Montana environment a unique flavor, a unique sense of meaning and belonging.

The environment abounds with wildlife. Deer, elk, antelope, bear, duck, and trout are all found in the natural habitat along with numerous other native wildlife species. In fact, a zoo of North American animals would be almost unrealistic to the average Montanan who can see wild game simply by taking a hike or casual drive. And a visit to one of the state's two National Parks (Glacier and Yellowstone) will frequently bring visions of many other species including mountain goats.

The Big Sky Country is indeed as varied as it is big. But its changing landscapes, temperatures and moisture seem to make it all that much more attractive. You can be in your home state knowing that only an hour or two away, your home is completely different, and you're equally welcome there.

AVERAGE PRECIPITATION

(inches, 1921-1950)

	Jan.	March	May	July	Sept.	Nov.	Annual
Billings	.54	1.05	1.88	.90	1.19	.63	13.23
Great Falls	.61	.92	2.10	1.28	1.20	.75	14.07
Helena	.47	.70	1.56	1.03	.95	.57	10.85
Bozeman	.90	1.52	2.34	1.14	1.57	1.05	17.38
Butte	.42	.65	1.74	1.20	1.04	.49	11.48
Missoula	.92	.73	1.87	.85	1.02	.90	12.83
Kalispell	1.37	.96	1.67	1.04	1.04	1.43	15.42
Minneapolis	.80	1.48	3.12	2.67	2.85	1.44	24.71
Spokane	2.44	1.50	1.21	.38	.75	2.24	17.19
Salt Lake City	1.20	1.66	1.56	.61	.74	1.42	14.74
Madison	1.31	1.83	3.27	3.30	3.99	2.29	30.00
Denver	.50	1.19	2.20	1.36	1.08	.70	14.20
Chicago	1.84	2.85	3.66	2.73	3.23	2.33	32.72

Highlights of an historic chronology

1743 Brothers La Verendry possibly sight Big Horn Mountains on swing through southeastern Montana.

1803 **Louisiana purchased from France.**

1805 District of Louisiana renamed Territory of Louisiana. **Lewis and Clark traverse Montana** on way west (April 25 to Sept. 8). Northwest Company (Canadian) explores southeast Montana under Larocque.

1806 Lewis and Clark reach Bitterroot Valley on return trip (July 1). Lewis at Great Falls (July 11). Clark at mouth of Yellowstone River (Aug. 3). Lewis reaches mouth of Yellowstone River (Aug. 7). John Colter leaves Lewis and Clark party, returns to Montana with two companions.

1807 Manuel Lisa constructs first fur trading post in Montana at mouth of Big Horn River.

1808 David Thompson enters Montana via Kootenai River, representing North West Company.

1809 Saleesh House erected at Thompson Falls by Thompson.

1810 Lisa men build and abandon post at Three Forks on Missouri River.

1812 Territory of Louisiana renamed Missouri Territory. Ross Cox comes to Flathead area from west for John Jacob Astor's Pacific Fur Company. David Thompson sights "Knowl" (Mt. Jumbo?) near future Missoula.

1818 **Montana east of Divide conceded to United States by Great Britain;** west of Divide claimed by both.

1821 Missouri admitted as state; eastern Montana becomes part of Indian Country.

1824 Hudson's Bay Company party crosses from Snake to Salmon Rivers via Beaverhead Valley; intense competition with Americans begins in Montana.

1825 Columbia Fur Company (Canadian) develops buffalo skin trade in eastern Montana.

1827 Astor attempts monopoly of Missouri fur trade: Pratte-Chouteau firm (St. Louis) sells out to Astor, absorbed into the "Western Department." Columbia Fur Company merges with Astor after sharp struggle with "Western Department;" renamed "Upper Missouri Outfit."

1828 Fort Union (American Fur Company) established near mouth of Yellowstone River.

1831 **Nez Perce' and Flathead delegation inaugurate attempts to bring missionaries to Montana and the Northwest.**

Ghost towns, like Elkhorn remind one of the past (Garry Wunderwald photo).

1832 Fort McKenzie (American Fur Company) established above mouth of Marias River.

1834 Hudson's Bay Company supreme west of Divide, American Fur Company dominant east of it; Astor sells "Western Department" to its manager (Pierre Chouteau, Jr.) and quits western fur trade.

1841 **St. Mary's Mission (Roman Catholic) established** by Father De Smet, S.J., near present Stevensville.

1843-45 Provisional government erected by settlers in Oregon Country; Montana west of Divide claimed.

1846 **Western Montana included in cession to United States by Great Britain.** Fort Connen (Hudson's Bay Company) established near St. Ignatius.

1847 Fort Benton (American Fur Company) established near present town.

1848 Oregon Territory created by Congress; Montana west of Divide included.

1850 St. Mary's Mission leased by John Owens; trading post constructed.

1851 First Fort Laramie Treaty; Indians of eastern Montana brought within Federal treaty system.

1853 Governor Stevens of Washington Territory surveys Montana for possible transcontinental railroad.

Buffalo still roam the west at the Moiese National Bison Range in Western Montana (Garry Wunderwald photo).

1853
-61 Washington Territory created and enlarged; Montana west of Divide included.

1854 Nebraska Territory created; Montana east of Divide included. Roman Catholic mission on Pend d'Oreille Lake moved to St. Ignatius.

1855 Governor Stevens signs treaties with western and northern Montana Indians.

1858 **Gold discovered** at Gold Creek by James and Granville Stuart, disappointed California miners; news trickles through to outside world.

1860 Steamboats reach Fort Benton.

1861 Dakota Territory created; Montana east of Divide included.

1862 Mullan Wagon Road completed from Walla Walla to Fort Benton. Gold rush to Grasshopper Creek (Bannack). James Fisk opens Minnesota-Montana route to goldfields.

1863 Idaho Territory including Montana created. Gold rush to Alder Gulch (Virginia City). Sioux wars begin.

1864 **Plummer gang broken up by Vigilantes;** Plummer hanged. **Montana Territory created.** Rush to Last Chance Gulch (Helena). Bozeman and Bridger Trails into Montana (on both sides of Big Horn Mountains) laid out. First newspaper, Montana Post, published in Montana. First legislature meets in Bannack; Sidney Edgerton, former chief justice of Idaho, first governor. Rush to Confederate Gulch (Diamond City).

1865 Territorial capitol moved to Virginia City.

1865
-67 "Reign of Meagher": Acting Governor Thomas Francis Meagher aligns self with pro-Southern Democrats against "patriotic" elements; period of extreme partisanship.

1866 Meagher followers meet in convention to plan statehood (Helena). Virginia City connected by telegraph with Salt Lake City. Green Clay Smith, personal friend of Abraham Lincoln, appointed Governor of Montana by President Johnson. Fort C. F. Smith constructed on Big Horn River. **First longhorns arrive from south via Texas Trail.**

1867 Congress annuls all acts of 2nd and 3rd legislative sessions, unprecedented action in American history; Meagher disgraced. John Bozeman slain by Indians. Fort Shaw constructed on Sun River. Meagher drowns at Fort Benton under mysterious circumstances. Fort Ellis constructed near Bozeman.

1867
-68 Democratic Party dominant in Montana; emergence of the "Big Four": W. A. Clark, Marcus Daly, Samuel Hauser and Col. C. A. Broadwater.

1868 United States signs away area east of Big Horn Mountains to Sioux and others; Bozeman Trail abandoned; Indians burn Fort C. F. Smith.

1869 James M. Ashley, prosecutor of President Johnson, appointed governor of Montana by President Grant. Corinne, Utah becomes important outfitting point for Montana mines with completion of Union Pacific Railroad.

1870 Benjamin F. Potts, Ohio Republican leader, appointed governor of Montana by President Grant.

1872 **Mining industry given special tax privileges** by legislature; genesis of contest between reform groups and mine operators. Garfield affair; Salish directed to leave Bitterroot Valley; Chief Charlot refuses to sign agreement.

1873 Major Baker battles with Sioux near Billings.

1875 **Territorial capitol moved from Virginia City to Helena.**

1876 **Custer command annihilated** by Sioux-Cheyenne coalition on Little Big Horn River.

1877 Fort Missoula constructed. Fort Keogh constructed at mouth of Tongue River (nucleus of Miles City). Fort Custer constructed near Custer battlefield. Nez Perce flee through Montana from Idaho under leadership of Chief Joseph; last important military success of Indians in Montana; surrender at Little Bear Paw Mountains.

1878 Butte Workingmen's Union organized.

1879 Fort Assiniboine constructed near Havre.

1880 Utah Northern Railroad enters Montana from south (completed to Silver Bow in 1881). Fort Maginnis constructed near Lewistown.

1881 Sitting Bull surrenders in North Dakota.

Northern Pacific reaches Miles City from east (completed 1883).

1883 J. Schuyler Crosby, New York Republican, appointed governor of Montana by President Arthur.

1884 Constitutional Convention meets in Helena but Congress refuses statehood. Stockmen form Vigilante group for action on plains. Montana miners go to Coeur d'Alene where miners are on strike. B. Platt Carpenter, New York Republican, appointed governor of Montana by President Arthur.

1885 Montana Stockgrowers' Association formed; peak of the cattle boom. Samuel T. Hauser, leading Montana capitalist and Democrat, appointed governor of Montana by President Cleveland. Riel Rebellion in Saskatchewan; refugee Indians flee to Montana.

1886
-87 Severe winter brings disaster to range cattle industry on the plains.

1887 Preston H. Leslie, Kentucky Democrat, appointed governor by President Cleveland. Manitoba Railroad (Great Northern) reaches Montana (completed 1893). Dawes Act accelerates reduction of Indian reservations in Montana.

1888 Forces of Daly thrown against Clark in election for delegate to Congress; **commencment of "War of the Copper Kings."** Australian (secret) ballot adopted. Mineral Lands Convention in Helena attacks land policy of Northern Pacific Railroad.

1889 Benjamin F. White, Dillon businessman, appointed last territorial governor of Montana by President Harrison. Montana Enabling Act: Territory permitted to hold convention and apply for statehood. Constitutional Convention in Helena. Disputed election: rival Houses of Representatives organized; chaos in legislature for two sessions (Joseph K. Toole, first state governor). **Statehood proclaimed.**

1891 Charlot's band of Salish forced to move to Jocko Reservation.

1892 Fort William Henry Harrison constructed near Helena. First "Capital Fight" contest between Anaconda (Daly) and Helena (Clark) for site of state capital.

1893 Legislature refuses to elect Clark to U.S. Senate; irregularities charged by both sides; contestants begin to buy up state newspapers. State university, college, school of mines, and normal college established by legislature. Western Federation of Miners founded with headquarters in Butte.

1894 **Helena made state capitol;** great victory for Clark.

Custer's Last Stand site can be visited along with a museum with battle details (Montana Travel Promotion photo).

1896 Democratic Populist coalition defeates Republicans; widespread support for free silver; Populist governor Robert Smith elected.

1897 Bitterroot National Forest established.

1899 Amalgamated Copper Company formed from Daly mines and Boston holdings; Standard Oil stages spectacular flotation of new stock. Legislative scandals: bribery charged against Clark in his bid for the U.S. Senate; extraordinary scenes in the legislature; collapse of party discipline; U.S. Senate refuses to seat Clark.

1900
-06 Dramatic contest between Amalgamated Copper and F. A. Heinze; Heinze supported by anti-Standard Oil sentiment; judiciary corrupted and legislature overrun by corporate interests; Heinze sells out in 1906, loses fortune in Panic of 1907.

1901 Joseph K. Toole begins second term as governor.

1905 Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) clash with locals of the A.F. of L. in Butte.

1906 Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad enters Montana (completed 1909). Initiative and referendum adopted.

1907 Forerunner of Rocky Mountain College established in Billings.

1909 IWW lumber strikes at Somers and Kalispell, "free-speech" strike at Missoula.

1910 Glacier National Park established.

1911 Socialist mayor elected in Butte.

1912 **First Farmers Union local established** (Ronan). Formation of Montana Power Company as a New Jersey corporation. Joseph Dixon of

Montana chosen to manage national campaign of Theodore Roosevelt's Bull-Moose party.

1912
-20 **"County-Booming" craze** in Montana; 25 new counties created.

1913 State Highway Commission created. Northern Montana College established.

1914 **Women given complete voting rights.**

1915 Amalgamated becomes Anaconda Copper Mining Company (ACM).

1916 Non-Partisan League (farmer protest movement) enters Montana, alarms conservatives. Jeanette Rankin of Montana becomes first woman elected to Congress, votes against war in Germany in 1917.

1917 IWW leader Frank Little lynched in Butte.

1919
-24 Anaconda Copper Mining Company attacked: Professor Levine of Montana State University suspended for publishing criticism of mines tax (1919); later restored, resigns. Reformers, some labor and farm groups, Non-Partisan League clamor for tax reform (1919-20). Joseph Dixon defeats B. K. Wheeler for governor; urges legislature to increase mines tax (1920-21). Mines tax referendum; people vote to increase the tax; Dixon defeated for re-election (1924), succeeded by John E. Erickson.

1922 Tong war among Chinese of Butte.

1924 Senator Walsh of Montana exposes Teapot Dome scandal in Washington, D.C. B. K. Wheeler is vice-presidential candidate for defeated Progressive Party.

1925 Eastern Montana College of Education established.

1933 Walsh dies before taking office as United States attorney-general under F. D. Roosevelt. Construction of Fort Peck Dam begins.

1935 Highway Patrol created by legislature.

1945 First Hutterite groups arrive from Canada.

1946 Senator Wheeler defeated for re-election to U.S. Senate.

1949 Construction begins on Canyon Ferry Dam.

1950 Veterans bonus approved by voters. Great Falls replaces Butte as largest city in state.

1951 **Oil boom begins in eastern Montana.** New oil law restricts leasing powers of Board of Land Commissioners; struggle for control of oil on state land begins. State Supreme Court invalidates lotteries.

1952 Teacher associations protest changes in oil law, assert income from school oil lands in jeopardy.

1953 Another oil law; legislature provides for leasing state oil lands to industry for indeterminative periods.

1954 Interim Legislative Committee scheme invalidated by State Supreme Court.

1955 Board of Land Commissioners attacks 1953 oil law before the United States Supreme Court; court decides against Board and upholds the law (Arnold Olsen as counsel for the Board, Dean Acheson among opposing counsel).

1956 Federal government and Crow Indians dispute value of lands required for Yellowtail Dam, subsequently built. Butte miners reject CIO in favor of International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers. Attorney General Olsen (D) runs for governor on program assailing oil lease law; defeated by incumbent J. Hugo Aronson.

1957 Recession: Price fall in metals and lumber depresses income generally; transportation hit; housing off; unemployment problem serious by end of year.

1959 **Severe earthquake** in upper Madison River valley results in 19 deaths and the formation of Quake Lake near Yellowstone National Park. Anaconda Company sells its Montana newspapers to Lee Newspapers, Incorporated.

1961 341st Strategic Missile Wing activated at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, making that base the first American Minuteman ICBM missile site.

1964 Montana celebrates the centennial anniversary of its creation as a territory.

1967 The giant Bell Creek oil field is discovered in the Powder River Valley near Broadus. Copper strike begins, lasting 250 days and resulting in the loss of approximately $34,000,000 in wages. The longest and costliest strike in the history of Montana.

1968 Yellowtail Dam on the Big Horn River completed and dedicated; construction begins on Libby Dam on the Kootenai River.

1969 Congressman James Battin resigns in order to accept a federal judgeship; he is succeeded, following a special election, by John Melcher.

1972 **Modern-day coal boom begins** as state's rich lodes are strip-mined.

1973
-74 ACM opens new open-pit copper mine at Butte and initiates pollution-free Arbiter refining process.

1973 Inland Port of Butte constructed for handling foreign imports.

1970
-73 **Governor Forrest Anderson initiates Executive Reorganization** of state government, creating 19 departments from 160 plus agencies and boards.

1972 **New Constitution ratified by close vote.**

1973
-74 Tough strip-mine regulations adopted by Legislators. Governor Thomas L. Judge leads move to maintain state's environment while enhancing agriculture, tourism and industry.

Western Montana abounds with mountains and lakes for the outdoor enthusiast (Garry Wunderwald photo).

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For Additional Information

Regarding: Economic Development:
Division of Economic Development
MT. Dept. of Community Affairs
Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59601

Statistical Information:
Div. of Research and Information Systems
MT. Dept. of Community Affairs
Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59601

Travel:
Travel Promotion:
MT. Dept. of Highways
Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59601

Other:
See Agency listings on page 00.

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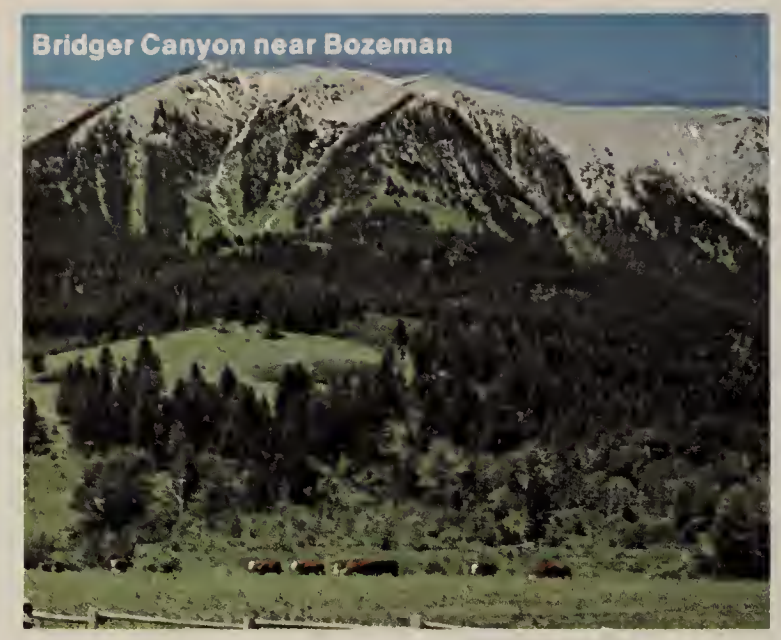
Jess C. Fletcher

MT. Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation
Carole Massman

Montana's Capitol glows in Autumn sunshine

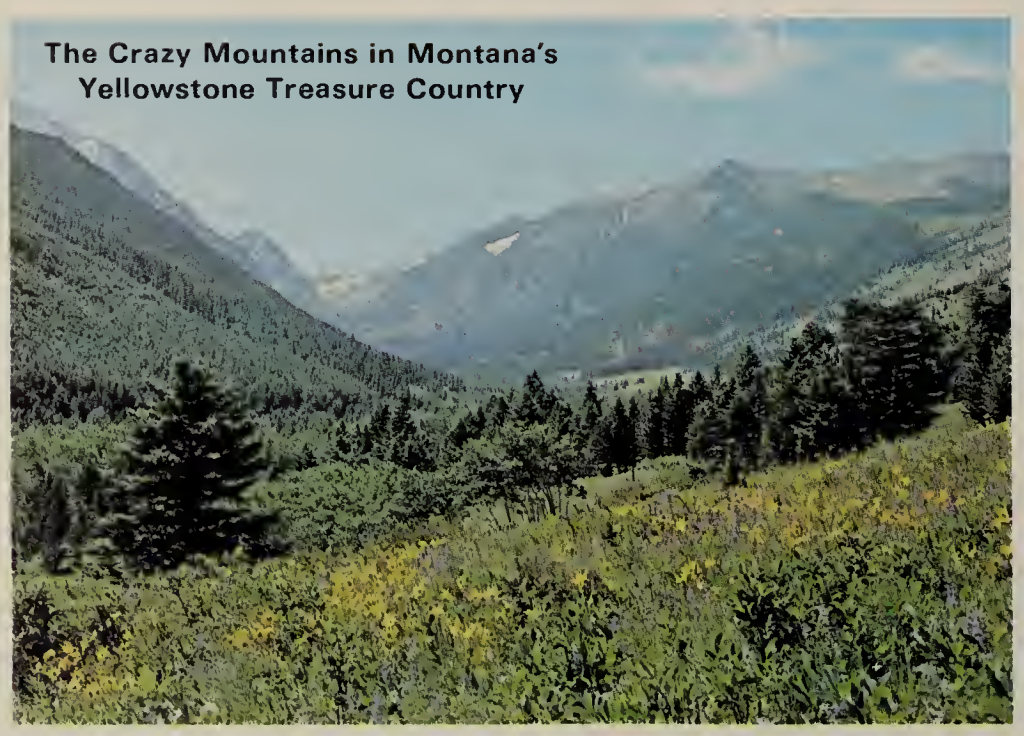
Branding time in Eastern Montana

Montana's strip farming produces quality wheat and barley



Bridger Canyon near Bozeman

Colorful pageantry – North American Indian Days at Brow



The Crazy Mountains in Montana's Yellowstone Treasure Country

Remains of old Fort Logan near White Sulphur Springs

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